

Message Text

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60

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-02 NEA-10 EUR-12 ACDA-07 EA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3999

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2379

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ZA UNGA

SUBJ: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 220772, (B) 220773

SUMMARY: IN MY INITIAL CALL ON MOFA PERMSECY PUTTEHO NGONDA, I LAID GOUNDWORK FOR MORE EXTENSIVE EMBASSY DISCUSSIONS TITH MOFA WORKING LEVEL ON ISSUES OF US INTEREST AT UPCOMING 31ST UNGA (REFTELS). AFTER NOTING OUR DESIRE TO AVOID DIVISIVE DEBATE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, I EXPANDED ON US AVERSION TO PASSAGE OF ANOTHER ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION. NGONDA ADMITTED GRZ HAD DIFFICULTY IN LINKING ZIONISM/RACISM ISSUE WITH ISRAEL-- SOUTH AFRICAN TIES, BUT POINTED OUT GRZ IS NOT IMMUNE TO STRONG AFRICAN SENTIMENT REGARDING INCREASING ISRAELI- SOUTH AFRICAN TIES AND ENTEBBE RAID. NGONDA DISTANCED GRZ FROM COLOMBO IOZP RESOLUTION SINGLING OUT US ACTIVITY BY SAYING GRZ HAD ALWAYS STRESSED HOPES FOR PEACE IN INDIAN OCEAN AND REFERRED TO ALL POWERS IN EVEN-HANDED WAY. IN PRINCIPLE, NGONDA AGREED ON NEED FOR BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE, BUT WOULD NOT RULE OUT OCCASIONAL NEED FOR EXPENDITURES WHICH
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COULD NOT BE FINANCED FROM BUDGET ECONOMIES AND

SAVINGS. THOUGH NGONDA MADE NO DIRECT REPLY TO MY EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE TO US AND THE WORLD OF THE KOREAN ISSUE, HE LEFT IMPRESSION GRZ WAS STUDYING THE ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN MY FIRST CALL ON PERMSECY PUTTEHO NGONDA OF MOFA, THE SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE MINISTRY AT THIS TIME, I BROUGHT UP A NUMBER OF MATTERS COVERED IN REFTELS. NGONDA AGREED WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT EMBOFFS SHOULD DISCUSS IN DETAIL THE LIST OF ISSUES CONTAINED IN THE REFTELS WITH THE OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR IO AFFAIRS AT THE MINISTRY.

2. SOUTHERN AFRICA: ZAMBIANS ARE OF COURSE FAMILIAR WITH PROBLEMS INVOLVING THIS REGION. IN CONNECTION WITH INFORMING NGONDA THAT ASST SECY SCHAUFELER WOULD ARRIVE IN LUSAKA THE FOLLOWING DAY, I MENTIONED OUR HOPES THAT THE SECRETARY'S INITIATIVES COULD RESULT IN CONSTRUCTIVE MOVEMENT TOWARD MAJORITY RULE AND SELF-DETERMINATION AND IN THIS CONNECTION NOTED THAT I HOPED HE WOULD AGREE THAT A DIVISIVE DEBATE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA IN THE UNGA WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL AT THIS STATE.

3. ZIONISM/RACISM; I MADE THE POINTS MENTIONED IN REFTEL(A) PARA 7B, NOTING OUR DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM FOR THE DECISION TO COMBAT RACISM AND OUR HOPES THAT PASSAGE OF ANOTHER RESOLUTION 3379 COULD BE AVOIDED. NGONDA REPLIED THAT HE FELT THAT, IF THE MATTER WAS INTRODUCED, THE DEBATE WOULD BE A GOOD DEAL "SHARPER" THIS YEAR THAN LAST BECAUSE AFRICANS HAVE BEEN DISTURBED BY TWO THINGS: THE CLOSER RELATIONS WHICH ISRAEL HAS ESTABLISHED WITH SOUTH AFRICA FOLLOWING VORSTER'S TRIP THERE THIS YEAR AND THE ENTEBBE RESCUE WHICH CREATED AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT FOR INTERVENTION EVEN THOUGH IT ACHIEVED THE RELEASE OF THE HOSTAGES. THE MOOD AT THE OAU CHIEFS OF STATE CONFERENCE IN PORT LOUIS UNDERLINED THE STRENGTH OF AFRICAN FEELING ON THIS SUBJECT. I NOTED THAT, WHILE WE COULD UNDERSTAND THAT ZAMBIA MIGHT DIFFER WITH ISRAEL ON THESE TWO

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MATTERS, IT SEEMED TO US TO BE DIFFERENT THAN EQUATING ZIONISM WITH RACISM. ZAMBIA DIFFERED WITH ACTIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WITHOUT NECESSARILY DENOUNCING THEM AS RACIST. NGONDA ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE GRZ HAS HAD SOME DIFFICULTY WITH TYING THESE TWO TOGETHER BUT UNDERLINED THE STRENGTH OF OPINION OPPOSING ISRAEL'S RECENT MOVES.

4. INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE: I EMPHASIZED OUR OPPOSITION TO THE IMPOSITION BY A REGIONAL GROUP OF STATES OF A LEGAL REGIME ON THE HIGH SEAS, NOTING THAT WHILE WE ALSO SOUGHT RESTRAINT IN THE AREA WE BELIEVED IT SHOULD BE EXERCISED BY ALL PARTIES. THE COLOMBO RESOLUTION ON THE SUBJECT HAD SINGLED OUT A US ACTIVITY WITYOUT MENTIONING THOSE OF THE OTHER SIDE. NGONDA REPLIED THAT AS FAR AS ZAMBIA WAS CONCERNED IT HAD ALWAYS STRESSED ITS HOPES FOR PEACE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND REFERRED TO ALL POWERS IN AN EVEN-HANDED WAY.

5. UN BUDGET - NGONDA SAID THAT WHILE HE AGREED IN GENERAL THAT ADD-ONS SHOULD BE FINANCED FROM SAVINGS AND ECONOMIES WITHIN THE CURRENT BUDGETS, THERE WAS ALWAYS AN OCCASIONAL NEED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL EXPENDITURES WHICH COULD NOT BE ENTIRELY RULED OUT.

6. KOREA - I RETURNED TO THE LENGTHY CONVERSATION WHCH THE DCM HAD HAD WITH NGONDA THE WEEK BEFORE ON KOREA. WE WANTED TO EMPHASIZE THIS ISSUE WHICH IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE BECAUSE IT COULD INVOLVE WORLD PEACE. THE FAILURE OF THE PRO-DPRK PROPOSED RESOLUTION EVEN TO MENTION SOUGH KOREA, OR OUR EFFORTS TO GET THE TWO PARTIES TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE, AND NORTH KOREA'S REFUSAL TO DO SO WERE OF VERY REAL CONCERN TO THE US. FINALLY, I NOTED THAT THE 25 COUNTRIES AT THE COLOMBO NAC HAD EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ON THE RESOLUTION WHICH WAS ADOPTED AND SAID WE HOPED THAT ZAMBIA COULD RE-EXAMINE THE ISSUE, BEARING IN MIND THE NEED FOR A MORE EVEN-HANDED APPROACH TO A VOLATILE ISSUE OF THIS KIND. THE CONVERSATION MOVED ON TO OTHER SUBJECTS BEFORE
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NGONDA COULD REPLY, BUT HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE GRZ WAS STUDYING THE ISSUE.
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